

and a few other books in order to announce to the public the results of my investigations and to disseminate information of newly discovered facts. In all of this work I spent one-half of my property."

In the NAUTILUS, Vol. 27, June, 1913, was published an account of the opening of The Hirasé Conchological Museum, with a picture of the building. It certainly required great enthusiasm and optimism to establish a purely conchological museum,—the only one of the kind ever attempted.

From 1907 to 1909 Hirasé published the "Conchological Magazine," Vols. I and II and four numbers of Vol. III appearing. It contains many fine illustrations. In 1914 he started a unique and interesting publication in Japanese style, "Illustrations of a Thousand Shells." Three volumes were published, containing 300 beautiful colored figures. The "Album of the Hirasé Conchological Museum" and the "Terebridae of Japan" are some of his publications.

Through his publications, correspondence and the distribution of shells Hirasé became known to conchologists all over the world. His investigations resulted in a great increase in the scientific knowledge of the Japanese fauna. Many species of mollusks have been named in his honor, and a peculiar genus of land snails, *Hirasea*, perpetuates his name.

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#### W. H. HARGRAVES

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This name was more familiar to the conchologists of the past generation than to those of the present age, so the decease of this past-time collector needs a little remark. Angas inaugurated conchological study in the Australian colonies about seventy years ago, first in South Australia and then in New South Wales. His record of the fauna of the latter colony incited the closer attention of a little band of workers of whom Cox, Hargraves and Brazier were the most noted. These submitted their finds to Angas, who recorded them, but later Cox and Brazier described many novelties themselves. After getting together a magnificent collection, Hargraves was stricken with illness, and

to secure health sold his treasures on condition they were deposited in a colonial museum. The choice fell on the Australian Museum, Sydney, the name of the donor being Mr. Thomas Walker, a generous benefactor of science in our early days. This happened as long ago as 1877, but Hargraves in 1907 was elected a trustee of the Museum, and always, when he attended the trustees' meetings, used to look over the shells still on view with the labeling "Hargraves Collection." Born as long ago as 1839, Hargraves attended a trustees' meeting on Feb. 6 this year, and was delightfully normal until he passed away on April 9; the week before his death sending farewell messages to the staff of the Museum.

Many novelties were described from his collecting; the genus *Hargravesia*, *Voluta hargravesi* Angas and *Placostylus hargravesi* Cox being named in his honor.—TOM IREDALE.

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#### R. MURDOCH

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Some thirty years ago there arose in New Zealand a malacologist whose earliest papers stamped him as an accession whose name would be enrolled among the few great workers in our branch. Fine anatomical work was supplemented by excellent descriptive ability, while clear judgment was associated with splendid draughtsmanship. Obviously peerless in Neozelanic conchological circles, business duties necessitated strict attention to mundane affairs, and science perforce was sacrificed, while loss of his collection by fire probably disheartened him. After some years his interest was revived and attention to fossil forms was given in conjunction with Dr. Marshall. Now just as we were hoping to receive the best of news, his death was reported, and through his previous silence has been overlooked as it took place as long ago as November, 1923.

His communications were to the Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London and the Transactions of the New Zealand Institute. He was one of the earliest members of the former body, having joined in the first year of its existence.

The genus *Murdochia* was named by Ancey, and several species were named in his honor by Hedley and Suter. Mur-